

10/695,699

REMARKS

The above amended paragraphs of the specification correct an informality and provides antecedent basis of the a term now utilized in the claims, i.e., merely provides antecedent basis for a more commonly known name for the transfer transmission 31. The undersigned avers that this amended paragraphs of the specification do not contain any new subject matter.

Claims 6 and 7 are rejected, under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as being anticipated by Yamaguchi et al. '266. The Applicant acknowledges and respectfully traverses the raised anticipatory rejection in view of the following remarks.

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 8-10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim(s). In accordance with this indication, claims 8 and 9 are each amended to be independent claims and those two amended independent claims are now believed to be allowable. As claims 7 and 13-16 all depend, either directly or indirectly, from amended independent claim 8 and as claims 10-12 depend, either directly or indirectly, from amended independent claim 9, all of those dependent claims are also believed to be allowable.

If any further amendment to this application is believed necessary to advance prosecution and place this case in allowable form, the Examiner is courteously solicited to contact the undersigned representative of the Applicant to discuss the same.

In view of the above claim amendments, the Applicant respectfully submits that further comments concerning the applied prior art is not believed necessary. The Applicant also notes the remaining prior art cited in the official action. As none of that additional art is applied by the Examiner against the claims of this application, the Applicant is not providing any comments concerning that art as well.

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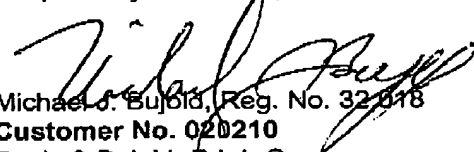
10/695,699

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the raised rejection(s) should be withdrawn and this application is now placed in a condition for allowance. Action to that end, in the form of an early Notice of Allowance, is courteously solicited by the Applicant at this time.

The Applicant respectfully requests that any outstanding objection(s) or requirement(s), as to the form of this application, be held in abeyance until allowable subject matter is indicated for this case.

In the event that there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge the same or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account (Account No. 04-0213).

Respectfully submitted,



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